



Planning Progress

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Attention Local Governments!

As part of the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant, Stark County continues to offer a Local Government Rebate Program. Rebates are available for the purchase and installation of qualified energy efficiency retrofits to local cities, townships, and villages within Stark County (outside the City of Canton).

The program permits a rebate of up to 90% of the cost of the retrofits to a maximum of \$1000 per political subdivision. Qualified improvements include the purchase and installation of:

- Programmable thermostats
- Insulation
- Energy efficient heating, ventilation, & air conditioning units (HVAC) to replace existing, less energy efficient systems
- Energy-saving windows

The chart below shows those political subdivisions that have already taken advantage of this opportunity. There is a limited amount of time and funding available. The program be will opened to non-profit agencies in the fall, so time is of the essence. For more details, contact Cliff Meidlein at 330-451-7904.

Subdivision	Program	\$ Spent	Rebate
Alliance City	Replaced 8 mercury vapor lights & 1 halogen spotlight with LED and energy efficient high pressure sodium lights	\$1,379.60	\$1,000.00
Bethlehem Twp.	Replaced old furnace with 95% efficient one	\$3,602.86	\$1,000.00
Limaville Village	Replaced hot-water boiler with energy efficient natural gas hot water boiler	\$8,795.00	\$1,000.00
Plain Twp.	Installed insulation panels, caulking, exhaust fan insulation & seals, installed door sweeps at Diamond Sports Complex	\$1,039.58	\$935.62
Tuscarawas Twp.	Installed 92% efficient furnace with programmable thermostat	\$2,450.00	\$1,000.00

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Adopted FY 2011 Stark County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Programs

In early May, the Board of Stark County Commissioners adopted the FY 2011 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME programs. This adoption took place after the 30-day comment period for both programs expired on April 12th. Both the FY 2011 CDBG and HOME programs were previously adopted by the CDBG Citizens' Advisory Council in late February and the Stark County Regional Planning Commission in early March, prior to the March 23rd public hearing. Below is the breakdown of each of the programs.

FY 2011 Community Development Program

The Board of Stark County Commissioners plan to undertake the following housing and community development activities during FY 2011.

<u>PROJECTS</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
CDBG Administration	136,799
Comprehensive Planning	73,925
Fair Housing	50,208
Housing Rehabilitation Program Costs	230,000
Emergency Rehabilitation Program	85,000
The Stock Pile, Inc. - LMI Reuse Warehouse	55,000
Community Services of Stark Co. - Family Living Center	22,447
Alliance for Children & Families- Alliance Emergency Residence	14,989
Prescription Asst. Network of Stark Co.-Prescription Medication Access	16,000
Salvation Army of Canton- Homeless Motel Vouchers	35,000
Canton Negro Oldtimers, Inc. - Three Annual Giving Events	5,000
Kent State Stark - KSU Micro Enterprise Development Program	27,967
Minerva-Valley St. Storm Sewer/Road Reconstruction Project - Phase IV	150,000
Marlboro Township - Marlboro Sanitary Sewer & Storm Sewer Project	395,000
Contingencies	7,325
TOTAL	\$1,304,660

It is anticipated that the County will receive an additional \$125,000 in program income from the current housing rehab revolving loan fund program. This program income will revolve back into this program.

FY 2011 HOME Program

The Board of Stark County Commissioners, as the lead agency for the HOME Consortium, plan the following expenditure of funds for the HOME program, which follows the same program year as the CDBG program.

PROJECTS

FUNDING

Stark Preservation Alliance - Massillon's Yorkview Apartments - LMI Acq./Rehab	62,500
City of Massillon - Homebuyer, Rehab, & Rental Activities	81,538
Stark Preservation Alliance - Alliance's Nantucket Cir. Apartments - LMI Acq./Rehab	158,952
SMHA - Tenant-based Rental Assistance - HOME X - 2nd year	40,000
NDS - St. Luke at Belden Village - LMI Elderly Rental Housing	400,000
Stark County - Homebuyer, Rehab, & Rental Activities	642
Administration	82,625
TOTAL	\$826,257

After adoption by the Board of Stark County Commissioners, the Stark County CDBG program submitted the fully-approved "Stark County FY 2011 CDBG and HOME Programs - One-Year Update of the Consolidated Plan" to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on May 9th for their acceptance and July 1st start date.



HOME - Nantucket Project

Alliance Emergency Residence



Marlboro Township- Sanitary/Storm Sewer

Stark County Working to Requalify for Community Development Block Grant Funding

The Stark County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is in the process of requalifying as an urban county for the next few years. With this requalification, Stark County will be assured of receiving CDBG funding during Fiscal Years 2012, 2013, and 2014 (July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2015).

The US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that entitlement counties requalify every three years as an urban county in order to receive a formula allocation of CDBG funding. An entitlement urban county, is a county that automatically receives CDBG funding for use in the community; an entitlement urban county does not need to submit a yearly application to HUD to receive this funding.

In order to qualify as an urban county for CDBG funding, HUD regulations state a county must meet certain population thresholds. Stark County qualifies as an urban county because the county has a total combined population of 200,000 or more excluding the metropolitan cities of Canton, Massillon, and Alliance. Updated census population counts can sometimes impact a county's status with HUD.

If Stark County does not requalify as urban county, local municipalities, non-profits, etc. would be forced to submit applications to the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) in order to receive State of Ohio CDBG funding. The ODOD receives hundreds of CDBG applications each year and only has enough available funding in order to provide monies to just a portion of the applicants; thus many worthy Stark County projects may not receive the needed CDBG dollars.

Over the next three fiscal years, it is hoped that all of the municipalities in Stark County (excluding *Canton, *Massillon, *Alliance, and **Hills & Dales) will be participating in Stark County's CDBG program. During these three years, Stark County can expect to receive around four million dollars of CDBG funds to be utilized to benefit the citizens of the county.

*receives CDBG funding from HUD, independent of Stark County's CDBG program

**community chooses not to participate in Stark County's CDBG program

HOME Consortium

Stark County and the cities of Alliance and Massillon have taken the steps necessary to be re-designated as a Consortium under the federal department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) HOME Investment Partnership Program. The ordinances passed by the cities, the Resolution adopted by the Board of Stark County Commissioners, and the consortium agreements have been submitted to the Columbus Field Office of HUD. The Consortium will be effective from FY 2012 – FY 2014.

Who's Watching the Freeway?

Anyone can, by using BuckeyeTraffic.org!

Curious drivers want to know:

- Is that a camera up on those new posts on I-77?
- Is that a weather vane on I-77 near Belden Village?
- What's that new message sign all about?
- What's that white box pointed at the road?



Coming soon, to a computer or smart-phone near you, is the new and updated Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) that you can access to find important travel related information.

Yes, those are cameras on the towers- and you can see the view from all of them throughout Ohio and- you guessed it- it really is a weather station! You can see how good (or bad) the weather is before you leave home, and check the weather near your picnic or fishing destination.

Those new message signs (ODOT calls them dynamic message signs)- will tell you how long it will take to drive to the next major destination and/or interchange- by using those white boxes- vehicle detectors that calculate the speed of traffic.

To see all this information, go to www.BuckeyeTraffic.org. The index is located on the left of the page. Click on the "Web Cameras" box and then "Update Map". All the active cameras will appear on the Ohio Map. You can then zoom in and move the map around and "left click" on any camera. A box will appear on the map which allows you to select the view. The same can be done with the "Dynamic Message Signs", "Road and Weather Sensors", "Highway Advisory Radios", etc.

Stark County is part of an ITS being installed in the Akron/Canton region that will include 64 cameras, 18 message signs, 18 vehicle detectors, and 2 radio stations. These types of systems are being installed in metropolitan areas all across the country. Stark County's ITS should be operating by September of this year.

Transit News



Belden Village
Transit Center

- **Belden Village Transit Center**
- **Summer Blast Pass**
- **Compressed Natural Gas**

Despite Mother Nature's best try with record amounts of rainfall, the **Belden Village Transit Center** construction remains on schedule for a September completion. This photo, taken June 2nd, shows the transit center under roof with a newly poured floor. If the photo doesn't appear particularly well framed, it's because it was taken from the X81 Canton/Akron express bus as it paused on its route so the photo could be taken!

SARTA once again is offering a **Summer Blast Pass** good for use on all fixed-route buses from June 1 to August 31 so that school age persons (6-24) can more easily access public transportation while school is out of session. The passes are \$30 and are available at all SARTA transit centers, Fishers grocery stores, and at the Stark State and Kent State Stark book stores.

As diesel prices continue to climb, SARTA has been looking at, and using, many methods to decrease costs. These include joining fuel buying pools, buying hybrid buses, testing bio-diesel and researching alternate fuels. SARTA is now working to add **compressed natural gas (CNG)** as one of its fuels of choice. Why compressed natural gas? SARTA can replace 1 gallon of diesel with about 60 cents of natural gas, a minimum of 1/3 the cost of what they are paying for diesel fuel. CNG buses also have incredibly clean emissions- water vapor and carbon dioxide. SARTA is working to add a fueling station that will allow additional agencies to participate in the CNG program- spreading the potential savings to others. Metro, Serving Summit County, has been using 45 CNG buses for a number of years.

Low-Impact Development

Low-impact development (LID) represents one of the most progressive trends in the area of storm water management and water quality. Although better known for its capacity to limit water pollution and manage storm water sustainably, in certain settings LID designs can also be more cost-effective as compared to conventional storm water controls. Specifically, LID can result in project cost savings by decreasing the amount of drainage infrastructure required. It can reduce or eliminate the need for other costly storm water management-related infrastructure including curbs, gutter, catch basins, piping, storage, and outlet control structures.

LID designs can also bring space-saving advantages by reducing the amount of land disturbance required during construction, saving money on site preparation expenses and erosion control.

For a recent project that took place in New Hampshire, the LID approach involved replacing the traditional asphalt in the roadway and driveways with porous asphalt and using subsurface infiltration for rooftop runoff, essentially eliminating a traditional pipe and pond approach. The LID option resulted in higher costs for roadway and driveway construction. However, considerable savings were realized for site preparation, temporary and permanent erosion control, curbing, and most noticeably drainage. Overall, the LID option was calculated to save the developers \$49,128 compared to a conventional design.

New Hampshire Project

Item	Conventional Option	Low-Impact Development Option	Cost Difference
Site Preparation	\$23,200	\$18,000	(\$5,200)
Temporary Erosion Control	\$5,846	\$3,811	(\$2,035)
Drainage	\$92,398	\$20,125	(\$72,273)
Roadway	\$82,054	\$127,972	\$45,918
Driveways	\$19,722	\$30,108	\$10,386
Curbing	\$6,464	\$0	(\$6,464)
Permanent Erosion Control	\$70,070	\$50,610	(\$19,460)
Additional Items	\$489,700	\$489,700	\$0
Buildings	\$3,600,000	\$3,600,000	\$0
Project Total	\$4,389,454	\$4,340,326	(\$49,128)

In the vast majority of cases, the EPA has found that implementing well-chosen LID practices saves money for developers, property owners, and communities while also protecting and restoring water quality. Although the use of LID in residential and large-scale commercial development is still a relatively new application, if designed correctly, it can bring significant water-quality and economic benefits. For the entire article, go to www.stormh2o.com.

Stormwater- March/April 2011



Stark County Regional Planning Commission
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Canton, Ohio 44702

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Upcoming Events

July

5	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
5	SCRPC	7:30 PM
25	SCATS	1:30 PM

August

8	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
9	SCRPC	7:30 PM
22	SCATS	1:30 PM

September

6	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
6	SCRPC	7:30 PM
26	SCATS	1:30 PM

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